



“A Personal History of the Disability Movement at European Level”

by

Johan Wesemann



- During the first 3 years of chair of the European Disability Forum (EDF) under Helios II action program (**1993 – 1996**)
- Then from **1997 - 1999** chair of independent platform of national and European disability organisations (EDF).
- Previously, I was a member of Dutch Comite International Year of Disability **1981** on behalf of Dutch Council of Disability 30 years ago.

European Disability Forum (EDF)

EDF represents National and European Disability organisation at EU-level

main goal EDF:

Lobby to the European Commission with its Institutions and European Parliament for a more inclusion society with an equal opportunities for all



The International Year of Disabled 1981 has a significant impact on the new thinking.



- The International Year of disabled 1981 was also an important momentum as the beginning of the globalization of the disabled movement





Human Right Treaties.

- As politics become more global, human right will play a greater role as a normative framework.

Action
program
Helios II

- European Parliament enforces EU to set up the advisory body of disabled people

New Power ratio between EDF and EU



- we find the way to form the unit from different categories disabled groups to makes a new power ratio to the European Commission

The Motto of EDF is as always:

- “Nothing about us without us”,
now with reference to Article
4.3 of the UN CRPD

4 remarks on my time als chair of EDF time:

01

First: fully accessible lift at the railway stations.

02

Second: slow changing of imaging

03

Third: how I functioned als chair EDF

04

Fourth: Netherlands was not active in the emancipation of disabled people worldwide

A close-up photograph of a blue marker writing the words "Thank you" in cursive on a light-colored surface. The marker is positioned at the end of the word "you". A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "•Questions?".

•Questions?